

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Masahiro KOYAMA et al.
Serial No.: Rule 53(b) Continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/398,776
Filed: March 31, 2004
For: DECENTRALIZED CONTROL SYSTEM FOR NETWORK
CONNECTION
Group: Not yet assigned
Examiner: Not yet assigned

CLAIM FOR PRIORITY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 31, 2004

Sir:

Under the provisions of 35 USC §119 and 37 CFR §1.55, Applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on Japanese Patent Application No. 11-062717, filed in Japan on March 10, 1999.

A certified copy of the above-referred-to Japanese Patent Application was filed on September 20, 1999 in prior application Serial No. 09/398,776, filed September 20, 1999.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



Frederick D. Bailey
Registration No. 42,282

FDB/sdb
(703) 312-6600